

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A single-phase motor comprising:

a stator including a stator iron core formed by laminating a plurality of electromagnetic steel sheets and provided with a slot between each of a plurality of stator teeth, and

single-phase two-pole distributed windings composed of a main winding and an auxiliary winding contained in the slot;

a rotor placed through a gap on an inner circumference of the stator; and

a plurality of evenly spaced semicircular notches having an approximately same width as the stator teeth and each provided at an outer side of each of the plurality of stator teeth on an outer circumference of the stator iron core wherein the number of semicircular notches corresponds to the number of stator teeth.

9. (Original) A hermetic compressor comprising the single-phase motor of claim 8.

10. (Previously Presented) The single phase motor of claim 8, wherein each semicircular notch is aligned with a respective stator tooth so that their centers are substantially located on the same radial axis.

11. (Previously Presented) The single phase motor of claim 8, wherein in the assembled state of the single phase motor, each of the plurality of evenly spaced semicircular notches form a flow passage.